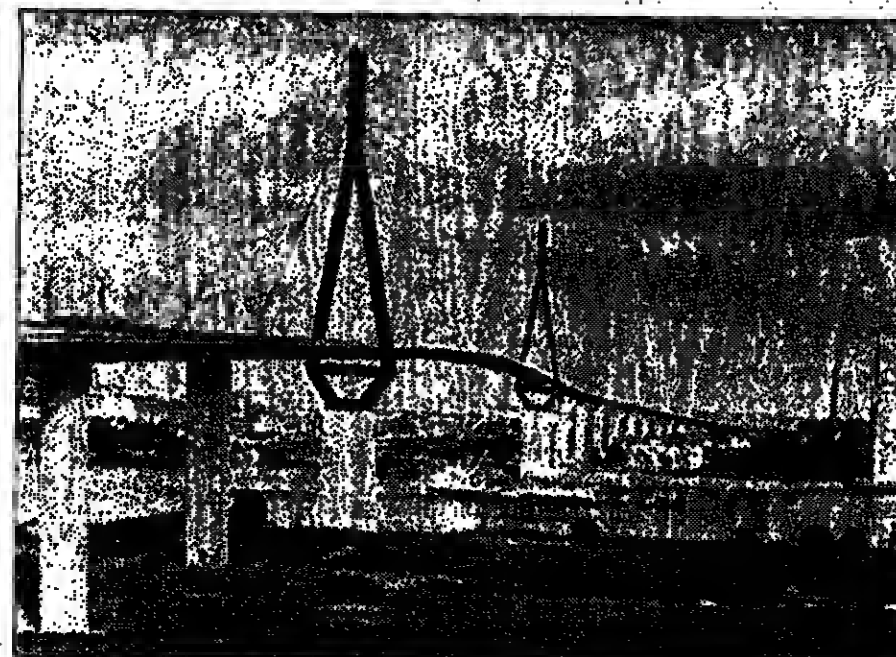


Bridges in Germany

Columbus hadn't been born yet, in Rome the Pope was Honorius II and the Emperor Barbarossa was still a young man - but there was already the "Stone Bridge" over the Danube at Regensburg. It was built in the first half of the 11th century and was regarded at that time as a "technical marvel", 310 metres in length with 16 stone arches. Today it is the oldest stone bridge still in use.

The bridges in Old Germany do not merely cross rivers and streams; they also span centuries and epochs. The ancient bridge across the Main in Würzburg is over 500 years old, with its stone figures of the Twelve Apostles, Mary and Joseph. The timber bridge across the Rhine in the romantic township of Säckingen was built 400 years ago. It is a gem - the oldest extant timber bridge in Europe. The stone bridge

in the Renaissance town of Regensburg, 12 July 1981, was erected shortly after 1800. The modern Köhlbrand Bridge in Hamburg is of almost gigantic proportions. Suspended on cables it is four kilometres long and 20 metres high. Germany is truly a land of bridges.



Bridge in Würzburg

Köhlbrand Bridge in Hamburg

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Washington waits for Moscow to act



There has been a constant stream of visitors to Moscow: Egon Bahr and Willy Brandt from Germany, Olof Palme from Sweden, Cyrus Vance and a Congressional delegation from America, and Lord Carrington, representing the EEC. This line-up has meant that other policies such as the entire Reagan administration, are conspicuous by their absence from the Soviet capital. From the start the new US administration has banked on exchanging its favours in return for visible signs of respect for international standards.

As long as no such respect is apparent, a withdrawal by the Red Army from Afghanistan, for instance, Washington continues to make itself scarce and hard to get. A number of visitors to Moscow will be exchanged telling glances and

The US approach is to point out to the Kremlin time and again the price it is having the pay for what it is doing. This persistence, credibly put forward, is seen as the only suitable means of building bridges by which Moscow can beat a retreat from an outpost such as Afghanistan without losing face.

It need not necessarily do so. What matters is to make the Russians realise the consequences of failure to use the bridge provided.

In this context it is also clear what the Reagan administration envisages by way of disarmament. The term is no longer used in the strictly military sense; it has become a much more far-reaching political concept.

In a world of interlocking political developments Washington is no longer prepared to accept disarmament talks as an oasis in the middle of a desert of confrontation.

Stability based on strategic arms limitation can simply no longer be relied on while the other side continually foment destabilisation in other parts of the world.

Disarmament thus takes on a fresh hue, aiming at stability across the board in international relations. It means not just arms stockpile disarmament but also, and in particular, disarmament in the context of political aggressiveness.

The concept is thus seen as going beyond its one-sided, isolated usage and being strategically transposed to a new context.

As a purely military concept disar-

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with their Soviet hosts about the inevitable cold warriors in Washington. But this is merely the surface impression. Beneath the surface an altogether different reality is gradually being brought to the fore by US determina-

Observers who deserve to be taken seriously are increasingly coming to appreciate that there will be no further moves towards detente as long as the Union continues to overstep the military and power-political mark to such an extent.

Lord Carrington's visit was devoted to disarmament in particular, an issue on which the European Community has taken a new diplomatic move in the line of US strategy.



Willy Brandt (left) is welcomed to Moscow by Leonid Brezhnev.

(Photo: dpa)

Brandt gives nothing away

moment at the same time forfeits the unique, almost predominant role it played in US policy between 1969 and 1979.

It now takes a back-seat role, ranking subordinate in concerns of foreign security and defence policy.

This development is only natural, given the enormous Soviet arms build-up in the Salt decade, the keener Soviet appetite for military conquest and Moscow's pleasure in political intimidation.

Propaganda against the twofold NATO decision and pressure on Poland may be taken as examples of the latter, while the Kremlin has eagerly pursued a course of destabilisation in the Third World.

This is the true picture of the superpower the Americans felt they had tamed to normality by means of a skill-

fully wrought network of mutual obligations. If the United States were not to stand up and announce its intention of offering resistance to this unhampered undermining of the spirit of detente, who else could do so in a world of growing claustrophobia? This term is borrowed from Eugene Rostow, the new US disarmament spokesman, addressing the Senate foreign relations committee. What contemporary conclusions, one wonders, do West Europeans reach who so vociferously protest against the US arms build-up and NATO missile modernisation?



American envoy arrives

Bonn President Karl Carstens (left) greets Arthur F. Burns, the new American ambassador to the Federal Republic of Germany. Mr Burns was presenting his credentials.

(Photo: dpa)

Despite results that are difficult indeed to quantify this country has every reason to be satisfied with Herr Brandt's visit.

Encounters between ranking Eastern and Western politicians are of intrinsic value inasmuch as they contribute towards a relaxation of atmospheric tension.

It remains to be seen whether he was really successful in his bid to sound out more satisfactorily the Soviet viewpoint and Moscow's willingness to compromise.

We shall know in a few days when the Bonn government and the allies have been briefed and more detailed information from Moscow is available.

Herr Brandt himself has dismissed speculation that he returned to Bonn empty-handed, although it was he who prompted that speculation in the first place.

He considers Mr. Brezhnev's declaration that Moscow could stop deploying more medium-range missiles the moment specific negotiations begin as no more than a new "accent."

This readiness can indeed amount to no more than an "accent." The Kremlin

Continued on page 2

Handwritten note in a box: "The German Tribune"

Vertical text on the left margin: "b o t a g i l t e c r p c s k i"

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هكذا من الأصل

■ THE LAW

Protests greet sentences in Majdanek concentration camp trial

Reaction to sentencing in the Majdanek trial was one of protest.

This was because of the disproportion between the atrocities and the sentences: one life term, seven prison sentences ranging between three and 12 years, and one acquittal.

The indignation in the court room and the harsh criticism by the chairman of the Jewish community in Berlin, Heinz Galinski, are understandable: can these unexpectedly mild sentences be just retribution for the 250,000 people who were killed in Majdanek?

Can it possibly be in order that almost certain participation in the death machinery of the concentration camp should now be punished with a few years of imprisonment?

Yet it would be irresponsible and premature to join the chorus of those who now criticise the court's ruling.

It was to be expected even before the mild sentences were passed that this trial, which started ten years too late, would meet with a spate of criticism.

The acquittal in April 1979 of four accused for lack of evidence presaged this when it triggered a wave of protests in Germany and abroad; and the constant delays did not help.

Dissatisfaction with the individual sentences is now coupled with anger at the general laxity and half-heartedness with which Nazi criminals have been prosecuted since the war.

This is not quite unfounded. Many



public prosecutors in the decade following the war threw in the towel because of difficulties in gathering evidence.

They threw out cases because "they lacked the necessary historic knowledge needed to shed light on Nazi crimes," as the head of the Ludwigsburg Centre for the Investigation of Nazi Crimes, Adalbert Rückerl, once put it.

The centre was not established until 1958 and thus began its work much too late.

Before it could begin and coordinate the systematic preliminary investigations needed to press charges, the public prosecutors acted only on reports of crimes filed by individuals.

A milestone — and not one to be proud of — in the prosecution of Nazi crimes was the amendment of the Criminal Code and a 1968/69 Supreme Court ruling that made it impossible to continue prosecuting "desk criminals" among ex-Nazis.

Still, it is impossible to apply unreservedly to the Majdanek trial criticism based on a historic mistrust of the German judiciary system which is partly justified, partly not.

Presiding Judge Bogen, whose circum-spect conduct of the trial has met with a great deal of praise and whose integrity is beyond question, was faced with the

task of steering the proceedings through the very reefs and narrows that have made it so difficult in other Nazi trials to arrive at the truth.

Naturally, the lawyers for the defence made use of every advantage that came their way, pointing to the actual or alleged memory gaps of witnesses and hiding behind the rubber wall of silence which neo-Nazi groups counselled to erect.

With it all, our judiciary principles must apply even to those accused who have inflicted such immeasurable suffering on their victims despite the danger of heinous crimes going unpunished, because they cannot be proved in terms of the strict criteria that govern evidence in the courts.

It is understandable that many people — and in particular the surviving victims of the Nazi regime — are outraged at the Düsseldorf sentences.

But they expect too much if, like Heinz Galinski, they think that Nazi trials could at least partly help to morally redeem the past.

Our criminal code is simply not equal to dealing with state-ordered mass murder. This being so, Nazi trials cannot be equated with "trials of the German past".

In the final analysis, these crimes can only be atoned for if all of us — including the post-war generation — take an active part in preventing a repeat of the events.

Jörn G. Praetorius

(Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 1 July 1981)

Witnesses' memory failures a major handicap

Nazi genocide and the resulting necessity to apply other yardsticks.

In the end, the critics failed to gain the upper hand — fortunately.

Düsseldorf saw witnesses who came to testify in a bid to fulfil the last wishes of their fellow inmates who died in the gas chambers; to tell mankind what happened in Majdanek, for before the trial their reports were in little demand.

This is the other side of the coin that has nothing to do with due process. What happened in Düsseldorf was that events were brought to light that no historian, no university seminar and not even the extremely active Institute for Contemporary History in Munich have unveiled.

The Ludwigsburg Centre for the Investigation of Nazi Crimes and the courts have shed at least some light on this dark chapter of German history.

Their files contain the testimonies of hundreds of survivors on the things they endured in the camps.

"Who else but a court could have confronted the victims with their torturers?" asked former concentration camp inmate Hermann Langbein years ago at the Auschwitz trial in Frankfurt.

Though it has never been the function of these court proceedings to shed light on historic truths, they atoned exactly this.

As a result, it is not the verdicts that matter but the work done in sifting material for the historians.

The Majdanek trial is particularly significant inasmuch as it was the last in a long series of similar court proceedings. All that is left to follow concerns individuals and smaller cases.

Majdanek marks the end of the road — a road of reconstructed horror linked with such names as Auschwitz, Chelmno, Treblinka, Sobibor and Belzec.

These were the worst of Himmler's extermination camps in Poland that pursued the "final solution of the Jewish question".

The Düsseldorf verdicts marked the end of this sequence. But even the carefully explained sentences cannot undo what the Nazis did to the Jews, to Christians, Communists, Gypsies and Social Democrats.

The real horror lies in the fact that those responsible for these crimes were able to withdraw into their middle-class existence.

This makes it clear that this collective terror was not a natural catastrophe — a fact that remains unchanged by the passage of 40 years.

The interplay of punishment and reconciliation fails in the face of the enormity of the crimes.

Roderich Ralfenath

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 1 July 1981)

Questions for society as a whole

A domo, the Frankfurt court once said that it was impossible to write a poem after Auschwitz. It seems to have glossed over the words. Yet the past keeps catching up with us. The question now is: can we meted out after Majdanek?

What does it mean for a judge to see a whole that the most heinous violations of human morality history has known meets with a Chancellor Schmidt is unable to rely that are so entirely out of keeping with the crime as those passed in the Majdanek trial?

How distorted must our perception be if, at the end of the trial, the day language of the media is again with such thoughtless ease as the biggest, longest and most criminal trial in German history?

Was it perhaps more than just that came to an end in Düsseldorf?

Was it not our ability to meet our own history through our judges as Chancellor, and busy building himself up as Herr Schmidt's successor?

The bitterness over the stems from the unwillingness to accept a fact historic injustice — a fact which close to 40 years has become the inability to meet in a judicially correct manner, to evaluate and interpret it.

In passing his sentences, the judge said that the court had to go beyond the shadow of a doubt. The witnesses' statements after the trial.

We have no choice but to accept the statement from the bench in the trial. Our outrage of the discrepancy between crime and punishment.

The judges seem to have been all they had to put up with. The slandering the painstaking effort made to observe all legal and procedural rules to prevent the trial from being on some formalism.

Let him who could have achieved a different verdict while observing the rules of due process cast the first stone.

But none of this changes the fact that, like in other Nazi trials, the preliminary investigations should have started much earlier and been carried out much more thoroughly.

Here we Germans have clearly but this had nothing to do with the court nor is it an excuse that legislation with the East Bloc countries too late in being established.

The indignities this trial imposed on the surviving witnesses can be called insufferable.

They were once more confronted with the people who had once tortured and who complained about that peace and quiet having been disturbed such a long time after the war.

The Düsseldorf sentences made for judicial peace. At the same time, they triggered a new wave of our past.

In any event, the events of this trial defy all rational explanation. Criminal law such as punishment, deterrent and retributive.

Can these sentences detect a dual or society as a whole?

Continued on page 4

■ POLITICS

Through the eyes of Willy Brandt

If the SPD is to maintain its social alliance of working people and technological intelligentsia it must both gain the allegiance of new and critical strata, and prevent the departure of dissatisfied supporters of old.

This makes enormous demands on the party's ability to communicate and on the person of the SPD chairman, but he has the advantage of coming closest to embodying, as most Social Democrats see it, what the SPD would like to be: a popular alliance of social and liberal forces.

"An alliance of thinkers and sufferers," he is given to dubbing the party, quoting Ferdinand Lassalle, the late 19th century Social Democrat.

Her Brandt is often accused of taking sides but in fact hates in-fighting and squabbles between factions and wings of party.

He recently had this to say to the SPD parliamentary party in Bonn, which was in uproar after upsets in the Bundestag defence debate:

"There is nothing to be gained by petty bourgeois who claim to be workers accusing other petty bourgeois of being intellectuals."

Would it not test the powers of a Sisyphus, trying to keep the SPD united? Willy Brandt long suffered from nightmares of a Social Democratic Party split along historic lines but is no longer worried on this score.

The risk of a split no longer applies in respect of either the actors or the problems faced, although he would not rule out the possibility of the odd member quitting the SPD.

He will hear nothing of another possibility either, that of the Social Democrats quitting the government benches and rejuvenating themselves in opposition.

The SPD leader says the party is duty bound to face up to the task of governing the country as long as it has the voters' mandate to do so, "and it must not do so in a bad mood."

To seek refuge in opposition would, he feels, be illusory, not only for the party's sake but also because it would be to forego the opportunity of solving urgent issues of the future.

What has brought him back into the limelight? It can hardly be personal view.

Adalbert Rückerl, the former head of the Ludwigsburg-based Centre for the Investigation of Nazi Crimes, once said about the Nazi criminals: "Virtually none of them would have become a criminal in our present democratic society."

This is not a plea in favour of the collective guilt thesis which would level off individual guilt as part of the general irresponsibility.

But his words also oppose the attempt to shove the blame for what happened onto a handful of people. They make it clear that the rule of law must be the result of a cultural effort by all citizens and that many become capable of committing crimes when society as a whole fails.

Perhaps the mild sentences passed by the Düsseldorf court will strengthen this realisation.

Robert Leicht

(Alldeutsche Zeitung, 1 July 1981)

There are shades of meaning in his brief answers to this question.

His ties with the Chancellor are "personally good" although he is kept "at a distance from what are essentially government matters."

His relations with Herbert Wehner are described in a single word: "objective."

As for Herr Genscher, he says they get on well together but it would be wrong to assume that the two party leaders form a kind of covert coalition fire brigade.

As long as Herr Wehner remains at the helm of the SPD parliamentary party there must no question of a coalition fire brigade, Herr Brandt feels.

Personally modest though he would prefer to be, he makes no bones about feeling in fine current fettle as SPD leader. What does he still have in mind?

"You used to be rated an old man at my age," says Willy Brandt, 68, "but not any longer." Even so, he is taking it easier, wants to gain time for private life, for reading and writing.

What will the SPD look like when he hands over the leadership to others? "In my lifetime it is not going to be possible to knock the party back into the shape in which I should like to hand it over to my successor," he says.

He is convinced nonetheless that he still has a contribution to make towards integration of the SPD of old with its new strata.

Above all, he is confident he will be able to present the Chancellor with an SPD at its Munich conference next spring with which Helmut Schmidt will be able to continue in government.

Herr Schmidt will carry on as Chancellor, Willy Brandt is utterly convinced. Could he not imagine having to take over again himself as Chancellor, even for an interim period?

He dismisses the idea with a wave of the hand, saying: "I really don't think so." Why is he so sure?

Because Herr Schmidt is sure to carry on and "because the question does not arise as far as I am concerned either."

Thomas Meyer

(Kölnischer Stadt-Anzeiger, 27 June 1981)

Washington waits

Continued from page 1

Do they not have much in common with Sartre's collaborator, following the cult of the facts in view of current Soviet predominance and testifying to a disregard for the law by maintaining silence on a tragedy such as Afghanistan?

This analogy was recently made in a talk by Cologne constitutional lawyer Martin Kriele.

US Defence Secretary Casper Weinberger has diagnosed the downhill path with similar perspicacity, saying:

"We must take care to ensure that a balance of armaments does not arise in Europe in which the mere attempt to bring about a change amounts to a breach of the peace."

For the time being one can but hope results will be achieved by visitors to Moscow who ought to know better than anyone else the true causes of this breach of the peace.

At their talks in the Kremlin the Americans will invariably be present as an invisible third party.

Determination to offer resistance is a strategic decision that is capable of forming subordinate patterns like a magnetic field.

Thomas Kießling

(Die Welt, 1 July 1981)

■ THE ECONOMY

Balancing supply and demand is the trick to beat the twin devils

Bonn's economic policy aims at keeping prices stable, and employment high, securing adequate growth and balancing foreign trade.

None of these will have been achieved at the end of the year. On the contrary, unemployment, economic growth and the balance of trade will deteriorate.

However, there is a good chance that inflation will be curbed in spite of double-figure inflation in many countries. Germany trades with and the diminishing value of the deutschmark, which are increasing the price of imported goods.

What is really unlikely is that price rises for consumer goods will be checked. The increased cost of imported goods is bound to prevent this.

But the price level consists not only of consumer goods but also of public sector consumption, which includes construction and other capital goods where price increases will slow down, thus curbing inflation as a whole.

Though the end of 1981 will find Germany in a better economic position than other countries, this is not much of a consolation. Our economic policy must go out of its way to check the wrong developments that plague us right now.

It takes a genuine economic strategy to combat unemployment and inflation simultaneously by matching overall demand and supply.

Demand must not exceed the supply if inflation is to be checked; but by the same token, it must also not lag behind if unemployment is to be reduced.

Such a strategy requires a credit policy with high but not excessive interest rates (as there are now), and our fiscal policy would have to make an effort to promote private investment.

The objective of such a strategy would be to dampen the economic decline resulting from the oil price shock as swiftly as possible and ensure a higher productivity level.

Increased productivity is essential of imported inflation (aggravated by the depreciation of the deutschmark) is to be offset.

Higher productivity is needed to improve the balance of payments.

The sooner the economy improves, the sooner will the unemployment problem be defused and the sooner will public sector budgets be unburdened.

But Germany's economic policy is faced with an international challenge on top of the national variety.

The oil price increases have distorted the structure of trade and current account balances throughout the world.

High current account deficits are now no longer a trademark of Third World countries.

Normalisation (i.e. the reduction of Opec surpluses and the deficits of the rest of the world) takes time during which the deficits have to be financed.

The high level of interest rates in the individual countries has a major bearing on this.

Take a country like the USA. Since its inflation rate now stands at about 10.5 per cent, its interest rates must naturally be higher than in Germany where inflation is only 5.5 per cent.

But when America's higher inflation



is not reflected in the dollar's exchange rate against the deutschmark and when Germany's current-account deficit leads to a depreciation of the national currency instead, then the high difference in the nominal interest rates must lead to an exodus of capital from Germany.

The central bank is well aware of this danger. It realises that the interest rate difference and the attendant outflow of capital must accelerate the depreciation of the deutschmark. The resulting rise in the prices of imported goods must by the same token lead to increased inflation rates in this country, resulting in the vicious circle of price increases and currency depreciation.

The Bundesbank is trying to counter this by its special Lombard rate of 12 per cent with consequent higher interest rates the banks must charge for credits.

The difference in the interest rates on the money markets of Germany and the United States (as well as other countries) has thus been somewhat reduced.

While, in 1980, the Bundesbank had to resort to its foreign exchange reserves to finance its current account deficit, this was no longer necessary in the first quarter of 1981. On the contrary, German foreign exchange reserves are up again.

The current account deficit was offset to some extent by long-term capital imports; short-term capital imports by other than banks; and money imports by banks. But much of these capital imports is accounted for by the public sector.

What matters is that the balance of payments, which reflects exports and imports, is showing a tendency to improve.

Industrial output in March and April was well below the same period last year, according to the latest report of the National Federation of German Industry (BDI).

Preliminary data issued by the Federal Statistics Office show that capital goods production was 5 per cent down and consumer goods 7 per cent down.

Total production declined 4 per cent. The report says the economy remains weak. At best, stabilisation at a low level is in store.

The gap between domestic and foreign demand as reflected in incoming orders has widened only slightly.

As a result of major orders, the order books (adjusted for inflation) swelled 6.5 per cent against the previous month. Domestic orders rose by 6 per cent and foreign orders by 7.5 per cent.

The type of foreign orders indicates, however, that appreciation expectations do not play the decisive role here. More important in this context is the cheap deutschmark.

Another major element is the fact that the range of capital goods offered by Germany largely meets foreign adaptation needs.

The BDI stresses that exports have

This is of course sorely needed because only by stepping up exports and curbing imports can we solve our current-account problems in the medium term.

Such an improvement in the balance of trade is possible on an international scale because the current account surpluses of the Opec countries will diminish during this year.

But monetary and credit policy are only one aspect of an overall economic policy. They are therefore not in a position to solve all economic woes.

An economic policy can only be successful using a uniform strategy that includes all elements and if the incomes policy of the parties to collective bargaining accept this strategy and abide by it.

What matters in view of the high interest rates is to bolster private investments through fiscal measures.

But the public sector's scope of action is very narrow. This makes it even more necessary to reduce administrative and political investment barriers that are still hampering numerous investment projects — especially in the energy sector.

Right now, the market is not only dominated by objective data but also by expectations and other subjective elements.

The economic climate could improve if the public were to be told clearly what sort of energy policy the public sector intends to pursue. This applies particularly to the Land governments.

The capital market is also largely dominated by expectations. Thus, for instance, the questions as to the yield of the capital market — especially with a view to the financing of public sector budgets — is, subjectively, largely seen in a sceptical light these days.

Objectively, however, the capital market has been exceptionally profitable. Sales of domestic fixed-interest securi-

Industrial output 'well down'

done little to relieve the poor profit position of German companies because export prices lagged behind domestic price increases.

While imports were largely involved in dollars, exports are billed primarily in deutschmarks. This has led to a deterioration in the terms of trade for companies and the German economy as a whole — something which this year's round of collective bargaining did not take into account.

The diminishing industrial productivity rate (0.5 per cent down in 1981) hailed to more idle production capacities (a drop of 6 per cent in March 1981 against the previous year), making for higher per piece wage costs.

All this hampers improvements on the labour market because the necessary investments presuppose a corresponding development of profits.

The position on foreign exchange

ties in the first quarter of this year by 76 per cent against the same period in 1980. The volume of bonds has more than doubled.

The sale of municipal bonds exceeds of which largely go into financing of public sector budgets, was 53 per cent during the same period.

There is a wide gap between the objective assessment of the situation and the subjective view of development. This can only be overcome by hard reality.

The public should be told what to expect regarding public and budgetary deficits.

1981 is a particularly difficult economically because economic developments are more than ever influenced by developments abroad. Reactive action will take longer than before.

Coordination and cooperation of other countries in solving economic problems must be the most important elements of domestic economic policy.

In spite of the difficulties, a genuine improvement is in the offing. The private consumption still faces improvement in other sectors.

The balance of trade is improving and this is what matters in the medium term. We should also not be misled by the drain on our foreign exchange reserves by holidaymakers or by external transfers to EEC coffers, for this money is reinvested in Germany.

The upswing is bound to come. This will also improve unemployment. Labour and management externalities kept mounting. The view then strain in their wage deals for 1981.

Though every penny of added production costs is too much in a time of economic decline and deutschmark depreciation, the wage increases clearly behind those of previous years.

Let us hope that private investment activities will continue to grow. The social peace will be preserved. Given this, it should be possible to solve problems that seem insoluble at the moment.

The author, Professor Claus Krawinkel, is a member of the Bundesbank board.

markets, the BDI says, shows signs of confidence crisis, largely caused by snowballing public sector indebtedness.

In its review of the economy by individual branches of industry, the BDI points to the alarming position of the construction industry which, as representative of that branch of industry, has to go through a state of emergency.

The dramatic drop in public construction orders presaged a crisis than original anticipated.

While economic research anticipated a decline of 4.5 per cent this year (in April), the construction industry now expects the decline to be 8 per cent.

At the end of May, there were 50,000 unemployed construction workers, a last year's figure.

Orders in April provided work for 32 months only, compared with 32 months in March.

Insolvencies between January and March 1981 stood at 352, with 251 in the same period of 1980. Bankruptcies are expected all-time high this year.

The position on foreign exchange

BUSINESS

The last picture show: Rollei firm folds



one of the world's best-known camera manufacturers, has gone out of business. It was hopelessly in debt; unsold cameras were piled up in its warehouses.

The crisis came when the company asked Norddeutsche Landesbank (NLB) for an additional credit of 15m.

was refused. Rollei's trouble is that it became too big and the cost structure was wrong.

expanded during the 1970s to Japanese competition and several factories were established in Singapore. Large quantities of cameras were produced but the rejection rate because of defects was high.

and there were few buyers. Sales kept dwindling. Rollei decided to depart from its policy of loyalty to dealers and began selling to wholesalers.

The specialised dealers responded by dropping Rollei, one by one. Prices were cut to boost sales, but the losses kept mounting. The view then strain in their wage deals for 1981.

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in Uelzen and took over the neighbouring Voigtlander Co., which had had to throw in the towel.

Convincing as he was, Peesel talked the NordLB into lending him another several hundred million deutschmarks.

But eventually the bank realised that the mammoth Rollei was built on sand. By 1974, NordLB had poured DM400m into the failing business. And there was nothing to show for it.

So the bank decided to fire Peesel and replace him by a Dutchman, Peter Canisius Josef Peperzak. He, too, failed to bring the company round.

Meanwhile, there was a change in the top management of NordLB. Adolf Kracht replaced Kurt Hähnel, who had reached retirement age.

The new man took over a bank whose main stockholders, Lower Saxony's savings banks and the state of Lower Saxony, had not only waited in vain for profits but also had to boost the balance sheet of the bank by injecting DM250m to plug the hole made by Rollei.

As Kracht saw it, Rollei should long have gone into bankruptcy, but nobody wanted to bear the responsibility for taking such a step.

The only option that remained to Kracht was to reduce losses and find a buyer for the company.

This presupposed the firing of Peperzak who was replaced in 1978 by Heinz Wehling of NordLB.

AEG-Telefunken is to receive a capital injection of DM250m. Shareholders approved this at the annual meeting of the financially troubled electrical concern.

One group of shareholders objected to the proposal, and another group, while in favour, thought that the amount was far too small.

The boost will come from a consortium of banks, but the new stock will not be issued at current market rates.

In addition, more cash is to be raised by selling more subsidiaries.

No dividend is to be paid this year.

In his report, chairman, Heinz Dürr said orders were up 9 per cent over the previous year and sales up 6 per cent.

But the company would remain in the red in the foreseeable future largely because of an "increasingly important risk factor": high interest rates.

Total annual interest payable to creditors throughout the world is estimated at DM600m for debts totalling more than DM50m.

The board did not begin answering shareholders' questions until the meeting had been running four hours.

The first one-and-a-half hours were taken up by Herr Dürr's report, which Kurt Fleblich (a notorious critic) termed "one of the most thorough and best I've heard at any AGM in the past few years."

It took another two-and-a-half hours for the 15 shareholders' representatives to present more than 100 questions. The mood throughout was sombre.

The board suggested to the 70.5 per cent of capital representatives present at the meeting (standing for a total of DM620m) an increase of DM250m be approved to provide some relief.

A written counter-proposal put for-

Wehling started by pruning and cancelling other photo companies through out the world in a bid to have them employ the huge Singapore plant as a subcontractor. He had some successes that not enough to make the Singapore works operate at capacity.

He also cut back on Rollei's own range of products, bolstering these measures by reducing the payroll and shutting down the Uelzen plant.

Though none of this put Rollei back in the black, losses were reduced markedly.

But it soon became obvious that none of this would lead to a recovery. Not only did it lack an attractive new camera but also an expert who was familiar with the market.

So the search for a partner was stepped up and early this year, when NordLB realised that further waiting would only cost money and that bankruptcy was inevitable, a buyer for Rollei was found: a largely unknown holding company in Luxembourg.

After many rounds of tough negotiations the deal was ready to be signed, but the holding company kept delaying and coming up with new demands.

It was at about that time that Hanns-Heinz Porst showed interest in Rollei.

Porst is considered an expert on the photo market and NordLB did not hesitate to offer him Rollei on the same terms as first agreed with the Luxembourg holding company.

Porst acquired Rollei free of charge and, to ice the cake, NordLB granted him generous credit.

Porst's idea was to look for partners in the photo industry and the trade who would participate in Rollei through a holding company.

He employed Otto Stemme as an as-



Hanns-Heinz Porst...the buck finally stops.

(Photo: Poly-Press)

stant. Stemme, a former Rollei man, has meanwhile gone to Agfa.

But Porst failed to find the partners, and the whole thing fell, though he himself suffered no financial loss. All that might have suffered was his reputation.

The NordLB is now in a better position than only a few months ago. The end of Rollei is a gain.

It now no longer has to honour its credit commitments that were bound to have generated losses.

All Rollei commitments were put in the 1980 balance sheet and the several million deutschmarks severance pay for the 700 redundant employees in Brunswick will hopefully come from the assets of the plant.

Hans Jürgen Wehrmann

(Kölnischer Stadt-Anzeiger, 27 June 1981)

AEG votes to increase its capital



Heinz Dürr...his report was praised.

(Photo: AEG-Telefunken)

ward by shareholders' representative Erich Nold, of Darmstadt, suggested that the motion be turned down.

What irks Nold is primarily the fact that former board members are drawing a total of DM3.7m.

He sees this as an injustice towards the workers, who have had to put up with pension cuts while "former board members who bear the brunt of the blame for the AEG woes line their pockets."

A written counter-proposal put for-

This sort of attitude, he said, endangers the company's credibility.

The speakers who followed made it clear that Nold's motion would be unable to muster many votes.

Quite apart from the fact that more than 50 per cent of the capital is held by banks, it was obvious from the beginning that the voting would go in favour of the management's decision.

Dürr not only enjoys the confidence of the banks but also has the backing of the small shareholders.

A spokesman of the Protection Society for Small Shareholders said that he was glad to see that the company's image was once more in order.

He did, however, say that the shareholders represented by him considered a capital injection of DM250m a pittance and that it would be better to look for a potent partner who could pour in several billion.

Questions about whether there was such a partner in sight remained unanswered by Dürr.

Additional money is also to be raised by selling further subsidiaries.

Dürr confirmed that AEG has sold its 50 per cent stake in the Heidelberg-based Teldix Co to Bosch.

Before putting the company policy up for discussion, Dürr presented a review of this year's business.

The mood among retailers and consumers, he said, gave rise to scepticism. But he was greatly relieved that the graph he produced showed that AEG was doing better than this branch of business as a whole.

99 per cent of the capital represented at the AGM voted in favour of the management's measures.

Peter Ziller

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 24 June 1981)

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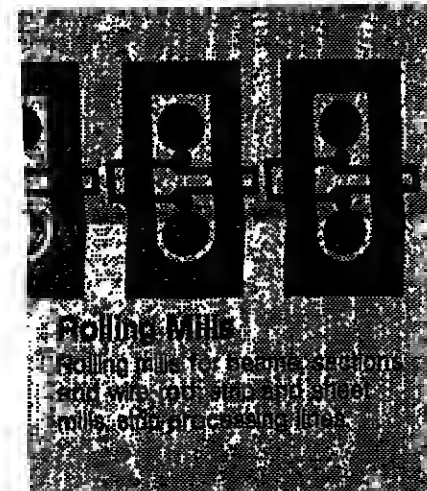
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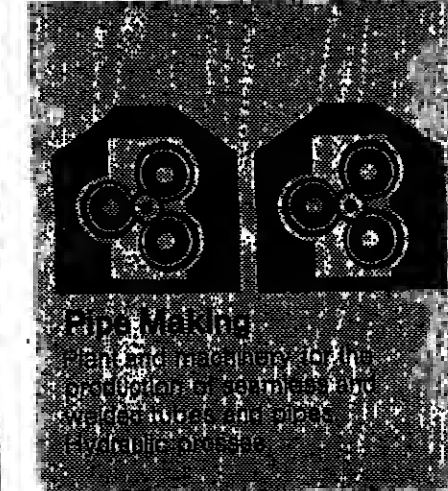
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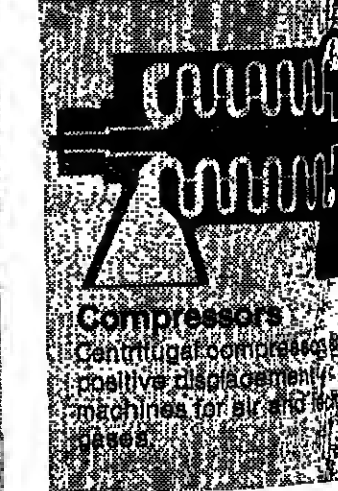
Metallurgical Plant
Integrated plant blast furnaces, steel mills, continuous casters, electrometallurgical plant.



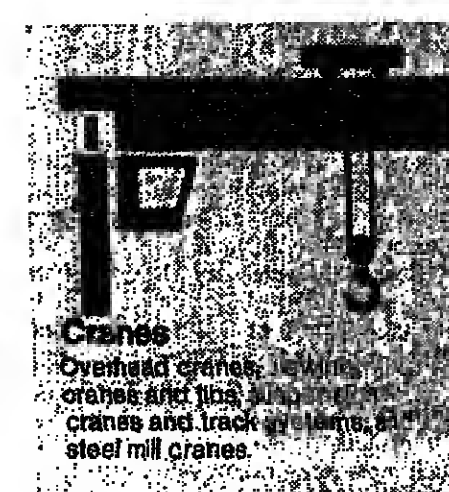
Rolling Mills
Rolling mills for beams, slabs, and wide plates, continuous mills, cold-chamber die casting.



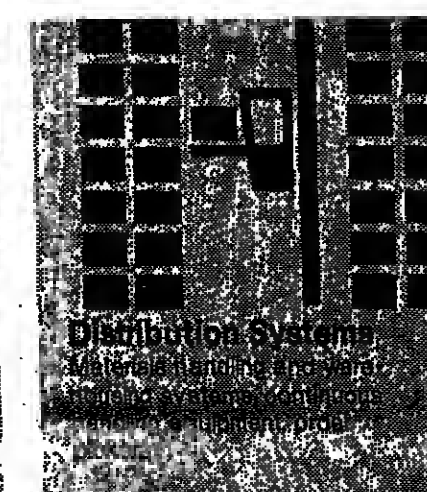
Pipe Making
Hot and cold-chamber die casting, continuous casting, pipe-making machines, cold-chamber die casting.



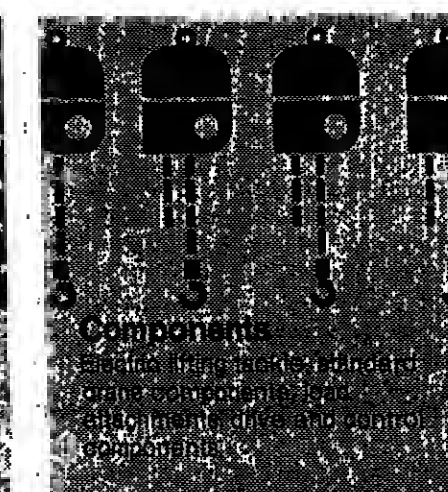
Compressors
Centrifugal compressors, positive displacement machines for air and gases.



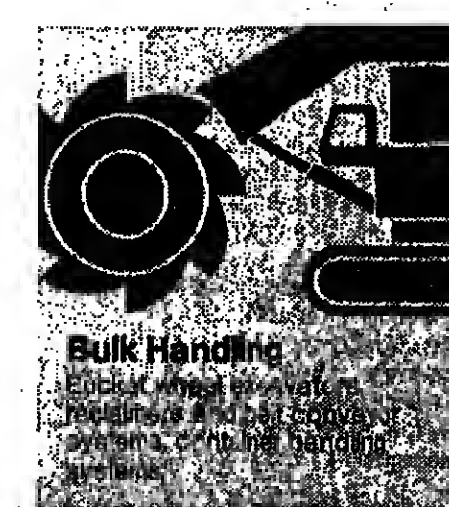
Cranes
Overhead cranes, bridge cranes, trolley cranes, and track cranes, steel mill cranes.



Distribution Systems
Material handling and conveying systems, storage systems, automated storage systems.



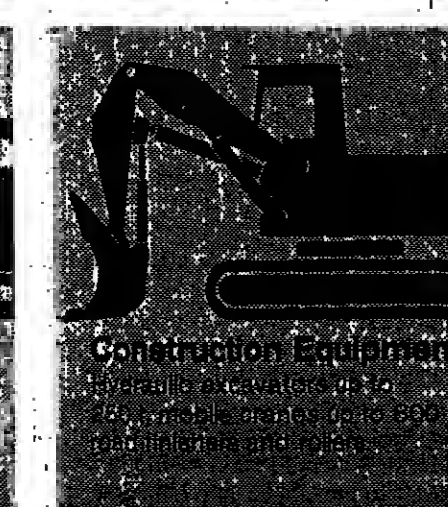
Components
Machine components, structural components, machine components, machine components.



Bulk Handling
Bulk material handling systems, conveyor systems, storage systems, automated storage systems.



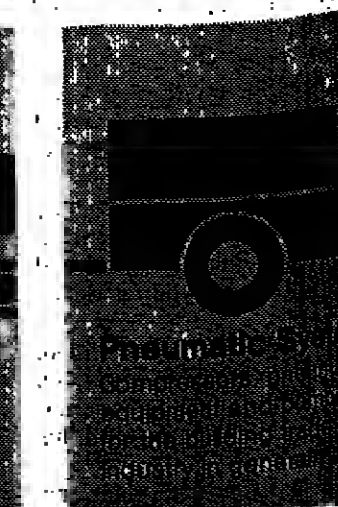
Mining Equipment
Mining equipment, mining equipment, mining equipment, mining equipment.



Construction Equipment
Construction equipment, construction equipment, construction equipment, construction equipment.



Plastic Machines
Plastic machines, plastic machines, plastic machines, plastic machines.



Pneumatic Machines
Pneumatic machines, pneumatic machines, pneumatic machines, pneumatic machines.

COMMERCIAL FISHING

Quotas to replace ban as herring regenerate

more dropped to 10,000 tons in the 1960s; and in 1976 the total ban on fishing for herring was imposed.

Stocks in the central and northern North Sea were considerably larger but they, too, started dwindling in 1963. The largest herring yield in the North Sea ever was in 1965: 1,425 million tons.

These stocks withstood overfishing somewhat better than those in the southern North Sea — perhaps because it was more difficult to intercept the schools before they reached their spawning grounds.

Still, catches continued to drop despite conservation measures until they were down to 190,000 tons in 1976 and 80,000 tons in 1977. The total ban ended this chapter of northern European fishing.

It is hard to understand in retrospect how it was possible to fish out the north east Atlantic and the North Sea within such a short time, even allowing for the industry's technical progress.

West Germany's fishing industry had to adapt to fishing West Atlantic herring stocks and to supplement this with deep-frozen herring and related fish imported from South Africa and Latin America.

Marine biologists attribute this rapid exhaustion of stocks to the fact that huge schools of herring are much easier to detect than cod, which lead a more isolated life on the bottom of the sea.

Even if a herring school has been heavily depleted, what remains will always form new schools, set: giving the fisherman the illusion to the very last moment that stocks are virtually inexhaustible and continually providing him with worthwhile targets for his fish-finding equipment.

Then came the development of the purse seine net, a net that could be hauled in from a distance of more than a mile from the fish school in any direction.

During form hula schools during winter, and are a fish that stay fairly close to the water. But they move in wide areas.

The school has been found. Now it is to be caught. This is where the purse net came into its own.

The development, a large container with a vertical opening, can close like a vertical opening, can close like a vertical opening, can close like a vertical opening.

It was above all the Norwegian purse netters who made use of these technical facilities in the north-east Atlantic where they were too impatient to wait for the schools to reach coastal areas.

Within a matter of three years (from 1963 through 1966) catches rose from a normal level for this area of about 1 million tons a year to twice that figure.

In 1967 they were down to 1.7 million tons and by 1968 it was obvious that stocks were on the verge of depletion. Catches were down to 0.71 million tons. Only one year later, in 1969, they wanted to only one-tenth of that (68,000 tons).

This meant the virtual total destruction of herring stocks in that region. By the end of 1974 catches were down to 3,000 tons.



The fish farmers (Photo: Jan Köhler-Kass)

Research reveals hopes for future of trout farming

Fish farming is being offered as one solution to the depletion of Europe's fishing grounds.

On the west coast of Schleswig-Holstein, for example, tens of thousands of rainbow trout are being carefully nurtured in floating cages of aluminium netting until they are a marketable size — about a pound.

They grow from between 150 grammes and 200 grammes to 500 grammes within three months. The rapid growth is caused by the switch from fresh to salt water.

The experiment could provide the German fishing industry with a new livelihood by enabling fishermen to raise fish.

Experiments with the raising of fish in cages have been under way for some time. Norway, for instance, has been very successful in its salmon farming projects along similar lines. In fact, a goodly part of Norwegian salmon that reaches Germany is farmed.

Germany has so far not progressed beyond experiments carried out by the Fisheries Research Institute in Hamburg and the Kiel Institute of Marine Biology which developed the trout cage now being tested.

The cage is a globe of netting that is kept afloat by small buoys attached to the frame. The globe can be rotated to prevent marine growth that would soon make the cage unusable.

in the areas around Kiel, Büsum and Husum.

Each of the globes has a diameter of six metres. The young fish are imported from France and will be distributed at a ratio of about 10,000 to 12,000 per cage.

The fishermen, however, are not yet "farmers" but only caretakers for the pilot project.

The 10,000 or so trout in each of the globes expect to be fed twice a day. This is done through a hose and the food consists primarily of the usual dry variety, though the fishermen want to try feeding the trout some inferior quality local shrimp that would otherwise not be marketable.

It is this shrimp that is expected to give the flesh of the trout a salmon-like red hue.

Curiously enough, Norway's salmon farmers had to add dye additives to the food to provide the flesh of their fish with the normal colour of wild salmon.

Using local shrimp will also provide German fishermen with a market for their inferior shrimp.

After many years of laboratory tests, the experiment has now entered a near commercial stage.

The aluminium cages seem to be a sensible solution to the problem. But only time will tell whether the cages are capable of withstanding the notoriously bad weather and currents in the North Sea.

After all, the globes cost about DM60,000 each and it remains to be seen whether the income from the fish will warrant the outlay.

The 36,000 tons of rainbow trout expected to be harvested this year if all goes well are of course not a commercially viable proposition and are significant only as part of a pilot project.

But should the experiment be successful and should the feasibility studies prove correct, the fishermen could start their rainbow trout farming in earnest next year.

This would make for an entirely new type of fishing industry that would be fuel-efficient and independent of catch quotas — and all this virtually at the fishermen's doorstep. Most of them are shrimp fishermen who could run their fish farms as a sideline.

(Düsseldorf, 10 June 1981)

Johannes W. K. 1981

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Continued on page 14

LITERATURE

Wolfgang Koeppen: conflicts of the soul and mythical imagery



Marcel Reich-Ranicki, senior literary critic at the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, is lavish in his praise of novelist Wolfgang Koeppen, 75.

"One single little book can be enough to explain once and for all what benefit we derive from literature here and now," he wrote.

This was a reference to Koeppen's autobiographical tale *Jugend* (Youth), published six years ago, since when the writer's friends have been awaiting the completion of his novel *In Staub mit allen Feinden Brandenburgs* (To Dust With All the Foes of Brandenburg).

Koeppen has never been a fast writer, but his books, apart from his first novel *Eine unglückliche Liebe* (An Unhappy Love Affair) of 1934, have all been remarkably well received.

At the same time he has never been a writer of No. 1 bestsellers. "I accept as a matter of course that I will never achieve success with the reading public along bestseller lines," he has written.

Koeppen has always been a loner, like his intellectual heroes. Not for him the cosiness and seeming security of membership of a group, nor yet conversations with other writers to sound out ideas.

"Topics peer me like longstanding creditors," he once noted.

His novels invariably cross geographical frontiers, so it is surely no coincidence that the travelogue is a distinctive feature of his literary output.

The heroes of his novels likewise prefer to be on the road all the time. "The world has never belonged to anyone to the extent that it has belonged to me."

As a narrator he admits to feeling that the plot is of secondary importance, but that by no means goes for the form of his literary output.

Ever since he read James Joyce's *Ulysses* as a 20-year-old and studied the novels of John Dos Passos he has known what the keynotes of his own work were to be.

He has aimed at a style of narration to make visible the way the world falls apart into sections that exist independently of each other.

At the same time his imagination, the creative imagination of a wordsmith, transforms people and objects, countries and continents.

With well-nigh hallucinatory urgency the images he paints verbally make their mark on the memory even when they are only mentioned in passing, as it were, in subordinate clauses.

For instance, the remark that "in Prague, writers' luggage is examined."

Accuracy has always been his foremost virtue as an author. If I were asked which book conveyed the most accurate impression of immediate post-war Germany I should without hesitation say Koeppen's *Tauben im Gras* (Pigeons in the Grass), a novel of social criticism written in 1951.

Against the background of the burnt-out rubble of Munich he describes the course of events in a single day just before the 1948 currency reform.

Using a skilled and exact narrative technique borrowed from Dos Passos he bundles the destinies of roughly two dozen people in parallel strands of action.

"Excitedly and confusedly people run around," he writes. "Their hearts are full of dreams that will not come true yet give them an illusion of stability in a meaningless world."

Like puppets on a string, manipulated by an invisible operator, they feel, like Pigeons in the Grass, deceptively free while being in fact sacrificed to the butcher.

In the precision of Koeppen's prose, as clear as glass, fundamental human experiences such as hunger and anxiety, love and hope, belief and death are reflected.

His language is as capable of mythical imagery as it is of subtly sounding out conflicts of the soul.

His later novels *Das Treibhaus* (The Hothouse), 1953, and *Der Tod in Rom* (Death in Rome), 1955, at times intensify their note of existential concern to one of ice-cold anger.

Koeppen has never been able to reconcile himself to the political and social restoration of pre-war conditions in the Federal Republic of Germany.

This restoration has invariably been the subject of his novels, so he has always seemed more than likely to switch to another genre that would free him from the irksome fetters of a plot.

It would also relieve him of the need for negation, so a number of critics who felt they had to denounce Koeppen's travelogues as an escape did so unnecessarily.

In *Nach Russland und anderswohin* (To Russia and Elsewhere), 1958, *Amerikafahrt* (Journey to America), 1959, and *Reisen nach Frankreich* (Journeys to France), 1961, he pulled out all the stops.

With unexpected comparisons, bold metaphors and pointed antitheses he embarked on what he called the game with the centuries.

His sensitive journeys into the cultural past of his countries led him back to his childhood and the stations of a life by the experiences of which he has always taken stock of his observations of the outside world.

Memory and reflection are thus the focal points of the imaginary ellipses he interlinks with long chains of words in *Jugend*, 1976.

The picture of the old city of Greif-



Wolfgang Koeppen...the John Dos Passos influence.

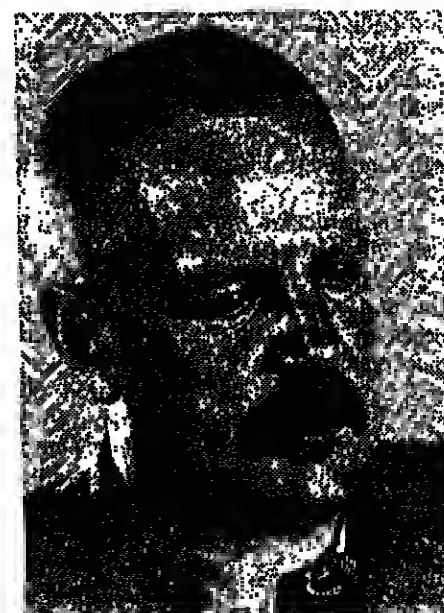
He weld, his native town, with its towers and redbrick gables, is set in well-nigh painful clarity.

It is as though Koeppen were a camera obscura, and against the round, with due regard for his role as a paradox, he examines, as a comic and critical observer, the progress of German society towards political catastrophe.

Seventy-five on 23 June, Koeppen deserves the gratitude and respect of expectant readers. Who else might be expected to write a major novel increasing the knowledge gained in his life and age?

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 20 June 1981)

Experiments with the use of words



Haimut Heissenbüttel...breaking with convention. (Photo: dpa)

charge of radio essays and lived in Stuttgart.

Influenced by Ezra Pound and Gottfried Benn, by Theodor von Adorno and Ludwig Wittgenstein, he experiments artistically and fearlessly with language.

Basically he finds it conventional, a bundle of speech habits, but without language we would not understand the world or things.

So what matters is to get language, rigidified, back into a state of flux by means of literature. What is unambiguous must be made multiple in meaning.

Heissenbüttel's early work is an extremely language-conscious attempt to

achieve this objective even though 'still' narrated realistically.

Kombinationen, his first book of poems, was published in 1954, but criticism of language was not to begin until his *Textbücher* began to appear in the 60s.

Language is denounced as a mere agreement, with the unity of it being an unattainable fiction in its logic and norms are felt to be inventions by mankind.

The writer is no "master in the history of dreams" and 20th century literature must be seen as "anti-grammatical".

His *Textbücher* begin with direct temporary criticism, everyday language being rediscovered in language. They end with text collages.

His tellingly assembled quotations to mind Karl Kraus, the Austrian satirist and social critic, but unlike Kraus Heissenbüttel accuses language of complicity to quote Franz Mon.

D'Alemberts Ende, a novel with Hamburg intellectuals published in 1970, showed us a new, changed Heissenbüttel.

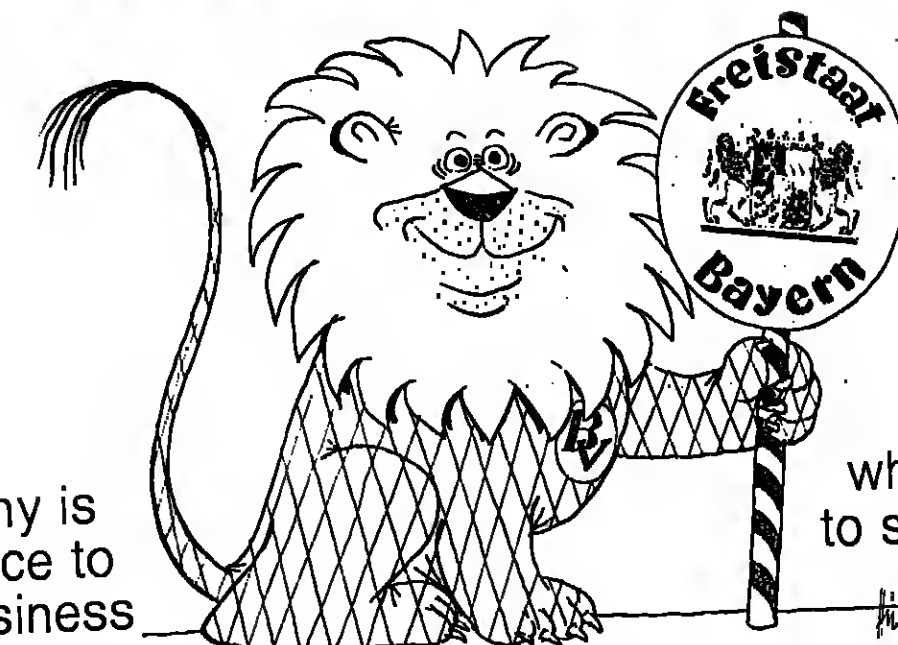
His academic allusions and linguistic wit remain unchanged but he now seems to be capable of telling tales, especially in the three prose novels published at yearly intervals he completed under the title *Projekt 3*.

The titles of his tales themselves are a story. They are *Eichendorffs Gang und andere Märchen* (Eichendorff's Decline and Other Fairy-Tales), *Wenn Adolf Hitler den Krieg gewonnen hätte* (If Adolf Hitler had Won the War), 1979, and *Das Ende der Alternative* (The End of the Alternative), 1980.

In *Projekt 3* Heissenbüttel once and for all a master at playing words.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, 13 June 1981)

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■ THE ENVIRONMENT

Where the risks lie from radiation leaks

The radiation risk to soil and plants grown alongside a nuclear power station is negligible, experiments at Jülich nuclear research centre show.

No matter how safe safety precautions at nuclear reactors may be, small quantities of radioactive matter will always find their way into the environment.

In the immediate vicinity of installations, at the foot of power station chimneys, radioactivity is low, only a fraction above the natural level.

Yet a number of substances that enter the food cycle via plants could considerably increase the radiation risk to mankind.

This is assuming they do not make a speedy exit from the body but stay for a longer period in the bones and tissue, maybe even amassing at specific points.

This particular radiation risk is borne in mind when safety levels are laid down for the exhaust fumes and effluent from nuclear installations.

But ascertaining basic data of radioactive substances proves difficult. Each radioactive isotope of an element, each radionuclide has its own behaviour and distribution pattern.

Research into the absorption of substances in various soils and their reception by plants' roots and into the dependence of intake rates on kinds of plant and soil, on growth stages, climate and agricultural methods has yet to be completed.

It calls for trials with deliberate doses of radionuclides that can, as safety re-

gulations now stand, only be administered on terrain that is specially protected.

The department of radio-agronomy at Jülich nuclear research institute has a plot that complies with these regulations. On it radionuclides may be used in quantities up to 200,000 times greater than the current safety ceiling.

Since 1978 plants have been grown at Jülich in special containers known as lysimeters. They are up to 12 square feet in surface area, so plants can grow in virtually natural conditions.

Experiments so far have been with the two most widespread categories of soil found in the Federal Republic of Germany: a rich soil known as parabraun and a poorer one known as podsol.

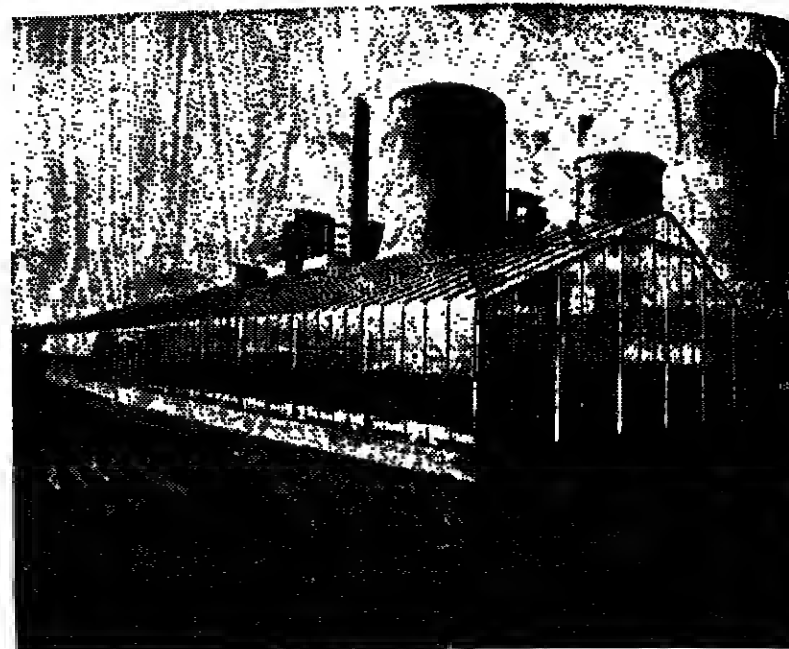
Plants grown have mainly been sugar beet, potatoes, winter wheat and summer barley. But lucerne and a mixture of pasture grass have also been grown to represent fodder crops. So have various kinds of vegetables.

Four different radionuclides are added to the soil down to a depth of eight inches. This to simulate a 50-year contamination in the vicinity of a nuclear power station.

The radioactive substances used are strontium 90, caesium 137, manganese 54 and cobalt 60.

Strontium was chosen because it behaves in a manner similar to calcium, which is of crucial importance for the bones. Caesium has much in common, both in the soil and in the plant, with potassium.

Manganese is an essential trace ele-



Hothouse in a cold embrace? ... nuclear power station at Neurath, Rhine-Warphalia.

ment in plant food. Cobalt is present at a fairly high level in the exhaust fumes of German nuclear power stations; its role in plant nutrition has yet to be fully clarified.

The radionuclides' behaviour was studied for a complete vegetation period in respect of both soil and plants and found to vary greatly from plant to plant.

The retention capacity of the soil was an important factor. In sandy soil radionuclides tend to be more soluble and thus reach plant roots in much larger quantities.

In podsol the plants' intake was up to 80 times larger than in richer soil. This crucial factor is to be probed further in methodical experiments.

There are differences in intake between plants. It also depends on their stage of development. The various

methods of cultivation likewise differ for differences in radionuclide intake. Trials have yet to reveal, however, safety levels have been set for crops that are eaten directly.

There is evidently no risk to life on account of radionuclides in the soil, not even if one were to eat nothing but potatoes grown in the vicinity of a nuclear power station that had been used for 50 years.

The resulting radiation would be a mere fraction of the natural background radiation that affects the liver and bones.

These findings may be reassuring to the Jülich research programme but they do not mean that the country is to be used.

The aim is to assess the radiation risk for any given location.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 1981)

RESEARCH

Earth's magnetic field gives new insights to archaeologists

Archaeomagnetism is the new magic wand for archaeological dating. It is the use of variations in the earth's magnetic field that can be traced in clay objects such as bricks and hearths that are exposed to high temperatures.

H. Becker of the Munich Institute of General and Applied Geophysics has found this method has permitted age finds in Asia Minor, to be dated within a few decades.

Other dating methods, archaeomagnetism does not provide absolute figures instantly.

This is because the earth's magnetic field has been in such flux during the millennia that other exact dating methods as a reference (such as dendrochronology) have to be used. Charts can then be applied to specific

It has been known for a long time that the earth's magnetic field changes constantly and that the position of the magnetic poles varies widely (due to the rotation of the magnetic axis or movement in the earth's surface).

It is also known that a switchover of the North and South Poles took place at some point.

In historical times (as opposed to the geological age) the earth's magnetism has at times had twice the strength that has today. For instance in 500 BC, around 500 BC, on the other hand, the magnetism was only one-quarter as strong as today.

The position of the magnetic poles constantly varied in relation to the geographic North Pole (declination).

The horizontal variation (inclination) has been even greater.

Thus for instance Dr Becker has found that the Bronze Age inclination in Asia Minor was up to 15 degrees greater than today. The reasons are still unknown.

Most interesting, so far is the archaeological dating of the fire that gutted Mycenaean fortresses of Tiryns in the Peloponnese.

This was not the only such fortress destroyed by fire in the late Mycenaean era.

It has been assumed until recently that invaders from the north destroyed Mycenaean civilisation. This was followed by an era of few archaeological finds (and therefore regarded as uncivilised).

They found out that the earth's magnetic field around the Etna volcano was in the lava whose age is a known quantity. Once liquid, lava has cooled down its magnetic minerals (magnetite and hematite) orientate themselves to the earth's magnetic field.

The same magnetic field is reflected in many archaeological finds: This applies in all cases of kiln-fired clay, for clay contains magnetite and hematite.

When clay is heated to temperatures more than 600 or 700 centigrade, however, these minerals lose their magnetic

properties at a particular temperature, what is known as the Curie point, and acquire the direction of the earth's magnetic field anew.

Since clay was one of man's most important materials, used for bricks, pottery and as a foundation for hearths, most archaeological sites are bound to contain objects made of this material.

The earliest applications of archaeomagnetism aimed in the opposite direction. The objective was to use already dated archaeological objects as a means of tracing changes in the earth's magnetic field and obtaining information on its origins.

British scientists of the post-war era were the first to try to use archaeomagnetism for the dating of finds, but they were not very successful.

Nor were scientists in some East Bloc countries.

Considerable progress has now been made at the Munich Institute, which developed a magnetometer of great accuracy.

This spinner magnetometer rotates the find at high speed, measuring magnetisation at every revolution.

The results are stored in computerised data banks and evaluated by computer. This method provides hundreds of measurements that are averaged out to provide fairly accurate information.

The method has been applied to finds in the Near East and the Peloponnese, and the results have been so good that the Munich scientists are certain that the method has proved its worth.

But this requires a careful selection of the items to be dated. They must have been heated to a very high temperature to reflect the magnetic field of the time.

As a result, it is particularly remnants of hearths with a clay foundation (customary in prehistoric days) to which this dating method is applied.

Most interesting, so far is the archaeological dating of the fire that gutted Mycenaean fortresses of Tiryns in the Peloponnese.

This was not the only such fortress destroyed by fire in the late Mycenaean era.

It has been assumed until recently that invaders from the north destroyed Mycenaean civilisation. This was followed by an era of few archaeological finds (and therefore regarded as uncivilised).

But latest finds, some of them under the auspices of the German Archaeological Institute in Athens, make this theory appear doubtful. An exact dating of the finds could provide an answer to the question why the Mycenaean palaces were possibly all destroyed at about the same time. Unfortunately, finds relating to the destruction of the Mycenaean Palace and the equally important gutting of the Tiryns fortress have so far eluded exact dating. The main fortress of Tiryns was unearthed about a century ago by many has been installed in the new German-Spanish observatory Schlemann, but all datable finds were destroyed in the process. Only remains of the brick wall which the fire heated to at least 1,000° remain.

These remnants have proved nothing so far. Archaeomagnetism, however, could make them talk.

Dr Becker is using recent finds on the outskirts of the Tiryns Fortress to provide him with a reliable "scale" of the earth's magnetic field. These finds include four baking ovens, a kiln and two other ovens (one of them possibly used to melt lead).

All of these finds are archaeologically datable and indicate that the inclination of the earth's magnetic field in the Peloponnese has shifted by about 63.3° from the era around 1200 BC to slightly more than 59° round 1150 BC.

Bricks dating back to the palace fire (73 specimens were used in the test) showed an inclination of 61.8°, making for a dating of 1190 BC (plus or minus 10 years).

Unfortunately, this dating alone without knowing the dates of the destruction of the other Mycenaean palaces does not

tell us much about the end of the Mycenaean civilisation; but it is remarkable enough in itself and is not quite compatible with the idea that the invasion by the Dorians spelled the end of the Mycenaean civilisation because that civilisation appears to have continued for several decades until about 1150 BC.

These important initial results of archaeomagnetism provide some idea of the potential of this new dating method - especially in view of the fact that carbon-14 dating (in which the quota of the radioactive carbon isotope C-14 in objects containing carbon, such as wood or bones, is measured) has proved remarkably unreliable.

To make it reliable the C-14 dating method would presuppose an absolutely constant level of carbon isotopes in the atmosphere, which cannot be taken for granted. We know today that the atmosphere's C-14 production fluctuates due to the irregularity of cosmic rays and changes in the earth's magnetic field which in turn, influences the atmosphere.

The C-14 clock built into the organic tissue of prehistoric finds is thus erratic and must be corrected for the various regions and eras. Unfortunately, the differences can be as much as 1,000 years.

Though archaeomagnetism provides no absolute dates but only magnetic information that has to be converted into absolute figures by means of a reference scale, the same applies to C-14 dating.

Archaeomagnetism, by measuring the variations of earth magnetism, makes use of the very steering mechanisms of the C-14 production in the atmosphere which make carbon dating so difficult.

It can therefore be assumed that, once fully developed, "archaeomagnetism" will provide a simpler and more accurate dating method than C-14.

Harald Steinert

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 26 June 1981)



A look at the stars

This 12-metre computerised telescope manufactured in Germany has been installed in the new German-Spanish observatory Schlemann, but all datable finds were destroyed in the process. Only remains of the brick wall which the fire heated to at least 1,000° remain.

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Ecological problems confront Amazon basin 'progress'

branches of ecology. The others deal with natural systems on earth and at sea. His institute was set up in 1892.

It is one of the oldest limnological research establishments in the world. It was affiliated with the Kaiser Wilhelm Society, the Max Planck Society's predecessor, in 1917.

One technique devised in Plön over 40 years ago is used at sewage farms all over the country. Most water purification plant cleanses water mechanically, biologically and chemically.

The chemical process was developed at Plön before the Second World War by August Thienemann. It uses iron to precipitate phosphate from effluent.

Nowadays, when most rivers are on the brink of biological demise partly because they are swash with tonnes of phosphate, this process looks like proving its worth on an industrial scale.

In this third stage at a conventional purification plant not only 90 per cent of the phosphate but also part of the highly toxic heavy metal, such as cadmium and lead, is extracted from effluent before it is pumped back into the rivers.

Research has since gone into a new process to clean up river water. Bacteria cultures are being bred that quickly and reliably cleanse the highly toxic effluent from dairies and tanneries.

What is more, the new bacteria can also adjust to varying quantities and concentrations. When more dirty water starts coming through, the cleansing capacity of the bacteria adjusts accordingly.

Headlines have also been made by bacteria isolates from the waters of the lakes surrounding Plön and code-named M 102.

They specialise in methane, a principal constituent of natural gas, as a source of carbon, converting it and other nutritive salts into high-grade protein suitable for human consumption.

The idea behind this process is 75 years old but the Plön Institute is the first to develop it to the stage at which it could be put to commercial use.

Since metabolic products impede bacteria growth and protein output, the bio-reactor has been fitted out with a kind of artificial kidney to filter them out.

The reactor has also been designed to ensure that the volatile gas mixture is kept strictly apart from mechanism that might emit sparks.

There is any amount of natural methane around and the high-grade protein it produces can be used to feed both animals and humans.

Countries such as Saudi Arabia and Kuwait have shown interest in the process but have so far been unable to buy bio-reactors based on the principle.

The process has been patented and is industrially feasible but a market has yet to be found who will pay for it.

Another current problem involves the acid rain problem.

Twenty thousand lakes in Sweden have turned acidic because of sulphur dioxide in the rain. More than 1,000 have only been saved from a similar fate by regular doses of lime.

The sulphur that is polluting the lakes comes from Britain, the other countries where it is blown by factory chimneys and is blown by the winds.

Inland waterways in Germany, on the other hand, are rich in chalk, so they do not face this problem.

Limnologists have yet to find a solution, says Professor Overbeck, who returned from an international conference on the subject.

"We have only just begun to know how little we know on the subject," he explains. A periodic acid rain will definitely be a problem in the long run, however.

He has high hopes, however, that in Japan, he says, they are naturally acidic for various reasons, yet micro-organisms nonetheless managed to develop.

If these micro-organisms are transferred to lakes in Sweden, they may only reinitiate biological processes partly offset the acid count.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 1981)

Junk in the water

■ CHILDREN

The delights of reading German newspapers

Frankfurt schoolchildren have spent three months learning how to read newspapers in a project financed by the municipal savings bank and supervised by an Aachen educational research institute.

About 1,000 pupils in 39 classes at all kinds of school in the city have read the three Frankfurt dailies *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, *Frankfurter Neue Presse* and *Frankfurter Rundschau* in rotation, each for a fortnight at a time.

Not only the three newspapers have been compared. Seven sentences on a topic in the TV news bulletin have been seen to be dealt with at greater length, in greater detail and in greater depth in the paper the next day.

The aim of the project is to enable schoolchildren to find out what use a daily newspaper is and to learn, over a three-month period, how to find the material that interests them and to select and use it.

Journalists occasionally visited classes or classes toured newspaper offices. Questions were asked. Newspaper staff were asked how much they earned and, for instance, whether they knew that people were interested in what they wrote about.

What was interesting? Views differ. Fourteen- to 16-year-old schoolchildren as a rule felt all three papers were fairly boring. Reading them was hard work.

The articles (all three newspapers are serious broadsheet dailies) were full of foreign words, many of which were Greek to the teenage readers.

By the time they had come to the end of a long and involved sentence they had often forgotten how it began.

Unforeseen difficulties also arose. Neither teachers nor journalists had expected to be asked why papers did not come in one piece: "The pages keep falling apart."

Reader interest and the benefit to be derived from reading newspapers at school prove to vary widely. Where the project was felt to have been a success much of the credit was doubtless due to the teacher.

Where teaching staff included newspaper coverage in other lessons and got pupils to take an active part (by distinguishing between news and comment, say, or writing reports of their own), reading the newspaper at school proved an interesting subject.

Continued from page 9

ver lining on the horizon, even though catch quotas must remain small.

The recovery proves that determined conservation measures can prevent the total collapse of stocks.

It should therefore be possible eventually to restore the former catch quota of 700,000 tons a year, which would be well worth while for Europe's ailing fishing industry.

Even this year EEC fishermen can already net several tens of thousands of tons of herring in the southern North Sea and considerably more in the open Atlantic off Scotland where stocks, though heavily reduced, have again risen to about 400,000 tons.

Harold Steinert

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 26 June 1981)

All told, however, the project supervisors failed to provide the teaching aid support needed, while teachers themselves obviously were unable to devote enough time to the subject.

When 50 teachers had agreed to attend a meeting with journalists only 20 would turn up. This was not the case in similar experiments in rural areas such as Dören and Wetzlar.

In discussions the schoolchildren mainly compared the newspaper with TV. "On TV they rattle it all off 19 to the dozen; in the paper it's easier to follow what it's all about."

In Wetzlar too they had seen the advantages of the newspaper where TV has its shortcomings. The first point usually made was that you only need to read what interests you.

Then came: "I can take the newspaper around with me wherever I want" and "I can read it whenever I feel like it."

For most of the 1,000-odd schoolchildren in the Frankfurt project it was the first time they had ever regularly read a newspaper.

Nearly all felt their everyday problems were not dealt with in the paper but very few felt there was no point in reading it. Being in the know was clearly worthwhile, but hard work.

It remains to be seen whether they actually put this realisation into practice and go on to become regular newspaper readers under their own steam.

The younger generation of Germans have grave misgivings about the law, says Frankfurt University psychologist Gisela Oestreich.

Their relationship with it is one of deep-seated mistrust, resignation and depression, she claims.

They wonder whether one can still wholeheartedly support a cause without fear of the consequences.

Professor Oestreich bases this claim on an evaluation of roughly 1,000 essays, poems and paintings entered by children and young people in North Rhine-Westphalia in a competition.

The competition, sponsored by the Land Education Ministry in Düsseldorf, was for entries on the subject of Justice and the Law.

It was high time politicians devoted serious thought to "free zones" in which young people could embark on projects of their own without thinking in terms of going underground or of revolutionary cells.

In conversation with competition prize-winners Inge Donnepp, North Rhine-Westphalia's Social Democratic Minister of Justice, said she regretted that the views young people had of the law in Germany bore the hallmark of US television detective series.

This imaginary TV world had little in common with the reality of courtroums in Germany, and moves had been in progress for several months to put the picture right at school.

Optional lessons in the law were now available at all secondary schools in North Rhine-Westphalia.

The prize-winners were critical of the

At least three conclusions can be reached after three months spent following the progress of the project. First, newspapers do not provide young people with very good service. Unlike TV they require effort, activity and concentration (a tall order for some youngsters). Journalism is often a far cry from what they are used to, both in sentence style and in vocabulary. Shock, Horror: Fewer Apprenticeships for School-Leavers may not be the only stylistic approach by which to hold juvenile reader interest but the more customary convolutions are the kiss of death.

"Jobs on offer, while having increased in number by and large, have failed to relieve the burden in respect of the number of apprenticeships available."

Formal considerations (choice of language, too few pictures) thus result in young readers failing to notice items that might well interest them.

Second, newspapers are an unknown quantity as far as juvenile readers are concerned (although they are by no means alone in this respect). They know little or nothing about how they are made.

As a result, schoolchildren are mistrustful ("You chuck readers' letters straight into the wastepaper basket").

If newspapers were to tell readers that

Legal system comes under fire

sterile, often fearsome atmosphere in courthouses they had visited with their classes, alone or with their parents.

Professor Oestreich reflects and summarises this anxiety in her evaluation of the essay entries as follows:

"Judgment is given, as young people see it, in an oppressive, threatening atmosphere. It is impossible to imagine a judge wearing jeans."

"They don't understand what is said, sentences are complex and full of foreign words, giving rise to feelings not only of powerlessness but also of aggression."

"This also given rise to suspicions that the poor get a poorer deal because the rich can afford to hire better lawyers."

Frau Donnepp, far from airily dismissing such claims, endorsed them by saying the prize-winners showed a clear sense of social justice.

Anja Runzheimer from Lienen, for instance, won a prize for this poem:

Der Richter sitzt auf seinem Thron und denkt, die Sache läuft so schön. Ich halte mich da lieber raus und denke mir das Urteil aus. Ist er schuldig oder nicht, ach, er ist nur ein kleiner Wicht. Im Leben ist er doch nichts wert, vielleicht laugt er ja eingespiert: Nun ich überlege noch, ist er schuldig oder doch? Ja, ins



Getting to grips with the news.

(Photo: Marianne von der...

more frequent intervals about themselves in the way that brochures authorities do, this mistrust was dispelled and closer reader links emerged, much to the annoyance of the yachtsmen.

Third, newspaper proprietors need to imagine that young readers is a condition in terms. Projects such as Frankfurt could well turn young consumers into newspaper readers.

But the educational groundwork be laid and newspaper staff must remind that comprehensible language is a choice of subjects that are of everyday interest are essential.

Both are needed if young readers to be won, and they can do no harm, gaining the interest of adult readers.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 23 June 1981)

Gefängnis ist nicht schlecht, ist Richter schließlich im Recht. Die Richter sitzen auf ihrem Thron und denken, die Sache läuft so schön. Ich halte mich da lieber raus und denke mir das Urteil aus. Ist er schuldig oder nicht, ach, er ist nur ein kleiner Wicht. Im Leben ist er doch nichts wert, vielleicht laugt er ja eingespiert: Nun ich überlege noch, ist er schuldig oder doch? Ja, ins

The prize-winners were not in fact of stiff penalties, which bore out Frau Donnepp had concluded from their own visits to North Rhine-Westphalia schools:

"Young people are less prone to adults to harbour a sense of vengeance have never come across an off-white head outlook in school."

A number of entries called for introduction of the death sentence, murder, rape and assassination, but stances of understanding were common, according to Professor Oestreich.

Youngsters felt no-one should be deprived of the chance of a return to normal life. They showed particular standing for the motives of "self-defence" and "self-protection".

Professor Oestreich feels the world of young people. Most of them felt the law was way behind the times.

One suggested cutting through the jungle of "paragraphs" with a "No Violence" law.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 25 June 1981)

SPORT

How Olympic yachting could have been

German yachtsmen won four of the seven Olympic-class events at the Kiel Regatta.

Doing so, they gave credence to opinion that four Olympic events would have been won by West Germans if they had competed at Tallinn in the Soviet Union, last year.

Kiel Regatta is tougher than the Games. There are more competitors and they are better.

Year, about 300 yachtsmen from 12 countries took part. And the competitors provided must have driven the point about the Olympics.

Matin Mankin of the Soviet Union, a three-time Olympic gold medalist in the Finn Dinghy, the Tempest and the Star, withdrew at Kiel after being disqualified twice.

But a fairly large crowd was able to see for itself that surfing, the latest Olympic regatta event, has yet to find its sea legs.

Only three races were held. The national and world champion Thomas Staltmaier from Hechendorf won twice but was twice disqualified for using a non-regulation sail.

Next year, at the centenary Kiel Regatta, the situation is expected to improve.

The host country certainly showed itself in fine fettle for the forthcoming European and world championships. Its last wins at Kiel were those of Spengler and Dullenkopf in the Tornado and of Mares and Stadler in the Star, both in 1977.

It remains to be seen whether this striking improvement on four years of relative failure at Kiel will provide any pointers to prospects for 1984.

Crews and craft are first-rate these days. We shall have to see whether enough research is done to ensure that this country can keep pace with the East Bloc's sports build-up.

Wolf Richter of the GDR in the Soling may have been the only East Bloc competitor to win at Kiel but in- alders know for a fact that the East Bloc is going to improve its boatbuilding and trimming substantially.

Motix von Groddeck (Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 29 June 1981)

The Dösch brothers, who recently won the six races in their event, were back on board the Admiral's Cup; a later they were back on board the Admiral's Cup.

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A Lufthansa pilot, Kuhweide feels the Pacific with its heavy swell and thermals will suit him down to the ground.

His famous "nose for the wind" certainly didn't let him down in Kiel. Tactically too he was head and shoulders above other local competitors.

The Seeb brothers from Zarnkau proved a 470 pairing of the highest calibre, absolutely unflappable even when there was only a hair's breadth in it.

They finished only 0.3 points ahead of Le Vaillant and Champy of France, but win they did, and that is what counts.

Wind surfers made their debut at Kiel this year in the new Olympic class, with a German, Claus Stieckl from Gmünd, winning the event.

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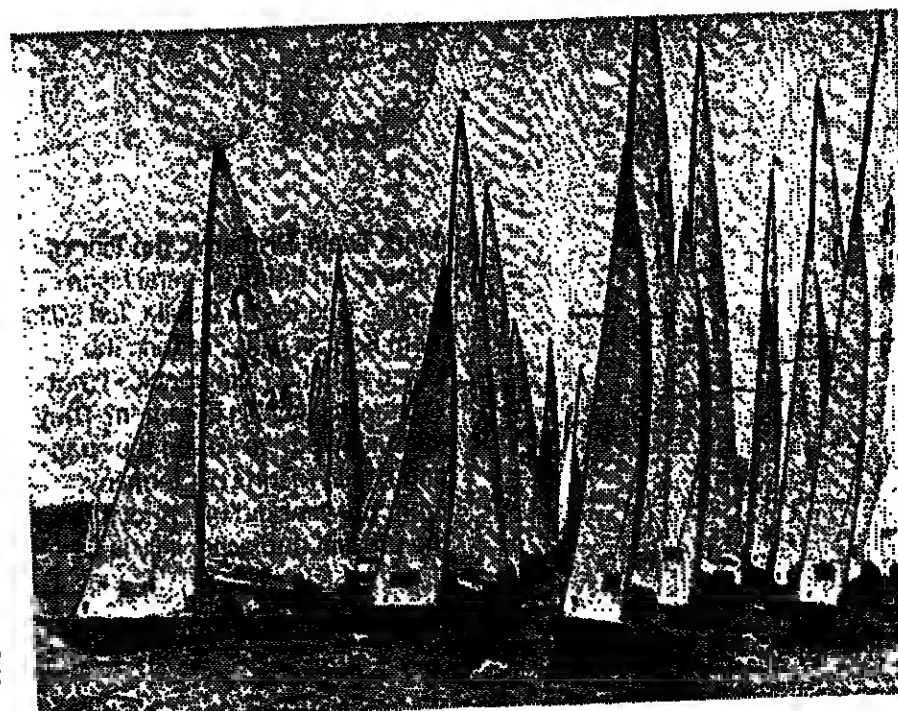
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Solinger-class yachts seek the breeze at Kiel.

(Photo: Wilfried Witters)

Briton outjumps field in Aachen grand prix

Britain's Malcolm Pyrah, 34, on Tonerlands Anglezark won the Aachen showjumping grand prix, before a crowd of 45,000.

Only he and Fred Cottier of France on Flambeau rode faultless rounds in the second jump-off, but Pyrah's 45.8 seconds was the faster.

Paul Schockemöhle from Mühlen came third on Deister. He completed the course in the shortest time, 44.5 seconds, but was penalised for a fault.

Peter Luther on Livius came fourth. He, like Ulrich Meyer zu Bexten on Ms-gister, notched up two penalties, but the Hamburg rider was 0.2 seconds faster.

In the team event the best showjumpers from nine countries were entered. After two heats six pairs and qualified for the first jump-off. Five went on to the second and final jump-off.

Over a 450-metre course six jumps were left, totalling seven obstacles up to 1.70 metres (5ft 7in) high.

The host country did not fare too well in the Prix des Nations, Switzerland and Australia won initial events, but the German riders were there when it mattered.

Peter Luther on Pedro and Gerd Wiltfang on Roman shared victory in the

main jumping event after notching up four penalties each in the third jump-off.

And there were no surprises in the dressage, with Uwe Schulten-Baumer on Sitowitiz winning as usual, and Gabriela Grillo on Galapagos and Reiner Klimke on Alenich coming second and third.

Schulten-Baumer, an Osnabrück doctor, won the dressage event for the third year in succession.

He won again that evening in the floodlit event. Gabriela Grillo, this time on Ultimo, was runner-up.

The next morning you could have heard a pin drop as 4,000 dressage fans watched the 12 best riders compete in the grand prix special.

This time Reiner Klimke from Münster deservedly won on Alenich, followed by Miss Grillo on Galapagos. Then came Dr Schulten-Baumer on Sitowitiz.

Josef Neckermann, in his last appearance at Aachen, was fourth on Duero.

Klimke's performance was a pleasure to watch. He was calm and self-assured as he put his mount through its paces, running all the risks and deserving the first place nearly all the judges awarded him.

So the dressage team for the European championships was reasonably clear from the Aachen results. It seems sure to be Grillo, Klimke and Schulten-Baumer.

Neckermann, who took his leave in a fitting, unforgettable ceremony at Aachen, agrees. But the team will not be named until the dressage committee meets in Berlin at the end of July after the national championships.

Despite six wins at Aachen the showjumping team prospects are less promising at the European championships in Munich.

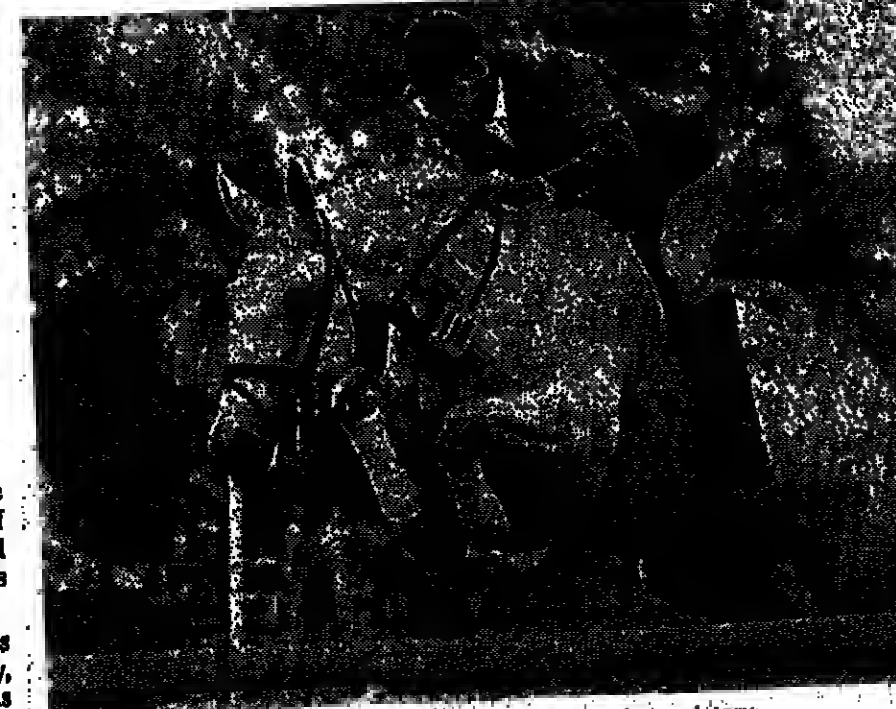
Paul Schockemöhle and Gerd Wiltfang are outstanding horsemen who can hold their own with anyone in the world, but the rest are mostly mediocre.

Possible exceptions are Franke Sloothaak, the most successful individual rider at Aachen with three wins, and Fritz Ligges.

Sloothaak, 23, from Mühlen is a natural, while Ligges, 42, has Olympic experience and strong nerves.

Günter Born

(Rheinische Post, 29 June 1981)



Gerd Wiltfang and friend shared a victory.

(Photo: Wiers)